export of skill based and knowledge based services. The country has shown its potential in software sector which has great scope for expansion; pharmaceuticals is another sector of great potential. Recognising the importance of services. Services export was included in the Exim Policy to provide this sector the needed boost. Policy measures are continuously being taken to encourage the services sector as well as the knowledge based industries so that they are able to contribute substantially to the growth of services exports.

Industrialisation of backward areas of Goa

1884. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Meta Strips Limited is setting up a big factory at Industrial Estate, Cortalim and Sancoale Village, Goa, with active support of Government financial institutions;

(b) whether the unit will help in industrialisation of backward areas of Goa in a big way since industry is a self-generating economy;

(c) whether some local organisations are protesting against setting up of this unit on false pretext of pollution; and

(d) if so, what steps Government are taking to ensure that industrialisation is not hampered there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Flowers and Fruits

1885. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposal to increase the export of flowers and fruits to different countries;

(b) if so, the countries to which flowers and fruits are being exported at present and the total amount of foreign exchange earned by Government by exporting flowers and fruits during the last three years;